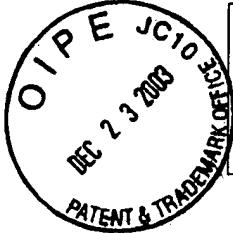


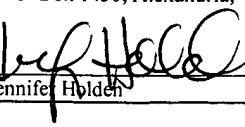
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SUGITA et al. Examiner: Unknown  
Serial No.: 10/692,362 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Filed: October 22, 2003 Docket: 10873.1317USW1  
Title: MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT, MAGNETIC HEAD, MAGNETIC MEMORY AND MAGNETIC RECORDING APPARATUS USING THE SAME



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Decembr 16, 2003.

By:   
Name: Jennifer Holden

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**23552**  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

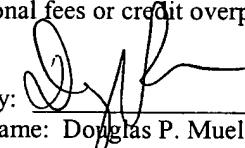
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Certified copy of a Japanese application, Serial No. 2002-119831, filed April 22, 2002, the right of priority of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. 119
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 8 References
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

By:   
Name: Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No.: 30,300  
DPM/jh



S/N 10692,362

PATENT

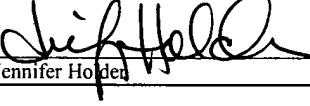
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 16, 2003.

By:   
Name: Jennifer Holder

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

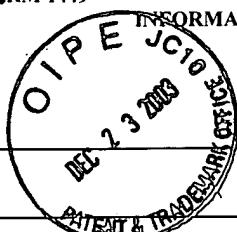
With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

FQRM 1449* <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> IN AN APPLICATION (use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 10873.1317USW1	Application Number: 10/692,362
		Applicant: SUGITA et al.	
		Filing Date: October 22, 2003	Group Art Unit: Unknown



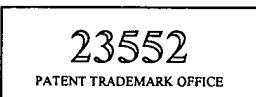
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2001/0033464	10.2001	Shimazawa et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
/	8-236349	09.1996	Japan			Abstract	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MATSUKAWA N. et al., "Thermally stable exchange-biased...", in <i>Applied Physics Letters</i> , December 16, 2002, Vol. 81, No. 25, pp 4784-4786
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SUGITA Y et al., "Thermal stability of PtMn based...", in <i>Journal of Applied Physics</i> , June 1, 2001, Vol. 89, No. 11, pp. 6919-6921
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MIYAZAKI T, "Spin Tunnel Junction", in <i>Materials Integration</i> , 2000, Vol. 13, No. 12 pp 7-12
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MIYAZAKI T et al., "Giant magnetic tunneling effect...", in <i>Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials</i> , 1995, 139, L231-L234
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JULLIERE M., "Tunneling Between Ferromagnetic Films", in <i>Physics Letters</i> , September 8, 1975, Vol. 54A, No. 3, pp 225-226
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MIYAZAKI T. et al. "Spin Polarized Tunneling in..." in <i>Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials</i> , 1995, 151, pp 403-410



EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: December 16, 2003

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh

